

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the final Office Action mailed on May 19, 2008. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 11, 13, and 22 are pending. Claims 12 and 23 have been cancelled. Claims 8, 11, and 13 have been amended. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 4-6, and 22 are allowed and that claims 12, 13, and 23 are allowable.

Claim 13 has been placed in independent form.

Claims 8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kwok in view of Allen and Welch. Applicants have elected to amend claim 8 to include the subject matter of dependent claim 12, as well as the intervening dependent claim 23. Both claims 12 and 23 were considered by the Examiner to be allowable. Applicants are not conceding in this application that claims 8 and 11 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Applicants appreciate the courtesy granted to Applicants' undersigned representative of a telephone interview conducted on July 17, 2008. As memorialized in the Interview Summary, the Examiner and Applicants' undersigned representative agreed as to claim language for dependent claim 11 that would place dependent claim 11 in an allowable condition. Accordingly, Applicants have proceeded in this response to amend claim 11 into an independent form that includes the claim language set forth in the Interview Summary.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 8 and 11.

Applicants have made a bona fide effort to respond to each and every requirement set forth in the Office Action. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is

submitted to be in complete condition for allowance. Accordingly, a timely notice of allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited. In the event that any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite issuance of this application.

Applicants do not believe any fee is due in connection with filing this communication. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any under-payment of fees associated with this communication or credit any over-payment to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,
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/William R. Allen/

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